

# Cameron School District

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*Home of the*

**Comets**

*The School District of Cameron  
does not discriminate on the ba-  
sis of race, color, national origin,  
age, gender, or disability.*

October 23, 2013

## Remarks made concerning the Common Core State Standards

Good afternoon. I am Dr. Randal Braun, district administrator of the School District of Cameron, located about 50 minutes north of here at the intersection of Highways 8 and 53. Since 2010, 45 states and the District of Columbia have adopted the Common Core State Standards. Each state made its local decision to adopt after opportunities to review drafts and voice feedback. The CCSS are rigorous, internationally-benchmarked English language arts and mathematics standards that are designed to ensure that students leave school with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in college and careers. The CCSS are NOT a national or state curriculum nor are they federally mandated. They were developed by a team of experts, educators and stakeholders in a process led by the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. Since 2010, the CCSS have garnered support from business, professional, advocacy, and policy stakeholders, and also have the support of national parent organizations.

Others have spoken about the calculated attempt to misinform the public and the legislature about the content of and motivations behind the Wisconsin adoption of the Common Core Standards. I will speak about my district's implementation of the Common Core Standards. Cameron began implementation shortly after adoption of the standards. We have spent considerable time and energy and made an investment

of many thousands of dollars of taxpayer's money to do a thorough job of incorporating the Common Core into the way that we do business. Just like the major auto manufacturers have to re-design and re-tool now and then to remain competitive, so do our schools. We are once again engaged in that process; a process that promises to allow us to make great gains in the educational outcomes of our students.

Make no mistake, the Common Core is not just about what we will teach; it is mostly about how we are fundamentally changing how we teach to correspond with the research that indicates how our students best learn. No longer are we going to be covering our subjects a mile wide and an inch deep, but with the guidance and framework of the Common Core we will transform what students learn into deeply explored content that will translate into applicable skills. Skills that will allow our students to work more productively, learn more easily, and live more enriched lives.

There are those who think that somehow the Common Core is a Big Brother movement. Poppycock! Please listen to those educators, parents, and business owners who support the Common Core. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randal Braun". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Randal Braun  
District Administrator